

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Bianca Sims, resident of Wethersfield. I attend graduate school in West Hartford and will graduate in 2015 with an MS in Autism and Applied Behavior Analysis. I am writing in opposition to the proposed bill HB 5537, allowing speech and language pathologists to provide services in the field of applied behavior analysis (ABA). As a behavioral therapist, I am in opposition of this bill because it is outside of the scope of practice of speech and language pathologist and they are not trained in the science or delivery of ABA services. As a provider in the field, I am also concerned for consumers of ABA services in the diminished quality of service they would receive if this bill was to pass. Lastly, providers of ABA services including Board Certified Behavior Analysts and school psychologists would be negatively affected and subjected to supervision of services that might not adhere to ethical and professional code of conduct outlined for those delivering behavior analytic services.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Bianca Sims